

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (New) A metal surface treatment to increase strength, flexibility and fatigue life of metals, and to protect metal-to-metal bonds at the apexes of cracks, scratches and gouges on the surface of metals, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) cleaning the surface of the metal to remove mill scale, soils, oils, corrosion products and previous coatings;
  - (b) removing moisture from said apexes;
  - (c) applying a metal etch to the surface of the metal; and
  - (d) applying a liquid corrosion preventative compound to said etched surface, whereby the strength, flexibility, and fatigue life of the metal are increased.